

80 foreign markets worldwide. Teams comprised of trade specialists, business and industry specialists, and economists provide unique sectoral and analytical expertise that supports U.S. Government efforts to protect the interests of U.S. businesses of all sizes and help them grow their exports. Their specialized knowledge across a broad range of sectors, policy programs, and economic activity is specifically tailored to inform decisions across the government, from trade negotiations, to trade enforcement, to supply chain resilience, to inward investment and national security.

ITA works on behalf of U.S. companies to promote a fair and rules-based international trading system that enhances American competitiveness. Core to this mission is strong enforcement of U.S. trade laws and taking action when our trading partners engage in unfair trade practices or do not play by the rules. ITA leverages its expertise in antidumping and countervailing duties to level the playing field for domestic manufacturing, and similarly its expertise in trade agreements compliance and Foreign Trade Zones to support job creation and encourage investment in the United States.

ITA's work also helps to safeguard and create jobs in the United States. It is a well-known fact that businesses that export, on average, pay higher wages and create more jobs than their non-exporting counterparts. As of late April 2021, since October 2020, ITA had assisted over 1,500 rural businesses, more than 1,500 woman-owned businesses, and over 1,300 minority-owned businesses. Thus far in FY21, the organization has assisted more than 20,000 U.S. companies with their export needs despite the setbacks created by the Covid-19 pandemic. Furthermore, SelectUSA, the foreign direct investment arm of the organization, has facilitated more than \$84 billion in client-verified investment and supported more than 106,000 jobs since its inception in 2011.

In closing, as we continue to celebrate the benefits of global trade, I appreciate this opportunity to recognize the hard and often unsung work and accomplishments of the professionals at ITA.

IN HONOR OF SUSAN HUARD

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Susan Huard, who is being honored today for her retirement from the Community College System of New Hampshire. She has served as the interim chancellor of the Community College System of New Hampshire since 2020. Throughout her time as chancellor for CCSNH, Susan guided her team through a global pandemic, helping students and staff to adapt to new challenges posed by the public health crisis.

Prior to serving as chancellor, Susan served as president of Manchester Community College for nine years, retiring in 2019. Her leadership and commitment to supporting the next generation has touched numerous lives and has played a vital role in building a brighter future for our community. Throughout her ten-

ure, she has served with dedication and adapted to challenges with grace.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank Susan for her years of service to our community. I congratulate her again on her incredible career, and I thank her for all that she has done to make our state such a wonderful place to learn, live, and grow.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TOM GUARINO

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2021

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today with Congresswoman BARBARA LEE and Congressman ERIC SWALWELL to recognize the life of Tom Guarino.

A lifelong Californian, Tom was born in Hollywood in 1953, and grew up in Covina. Tom graduated from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona in 1977, and later earned a certificate in Organizational Management from the University of California Los Angeles. In 1978, Tom moved to northern California, where he began a career in journalism. He worked as a radio news director, correspondent for the Sacramento Bee, and freelance writer for the Associated Press, United Press International, Mutual Radio, and NBC Radio. Tom later joined Assemblymember Chris Chandler's office in Yuba City, where he continued building community relations. Tom's experience was further broadened by his work as the CEO of the Chico and San Leandro Chambers of Commerce. In San Leandro, Tom worked with the City Council on a project called "Business Walk," where the chamber and the council visited every business in the city to assess their needs. Tom's ability to make connections between the public and private sectors not only increased chamber membership in San Leandro, but also helped develop successful partnerships and new opportunities.

Tom combined his many years of experience and began working for Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E). We were fortunate to have Tom as PG&E's Senior Government Relations Representative with the East Bay Public Affairs Team. His breadth of experience and vast knowledge allowed Tom to navigate relationships with elected officials, community leaders, and organizations. He was known for always answering the call for help and successfully engaging individuals with their public utility provider.

Tom's involvement in the community, however, went beyond his work with PG&E. His personal philanthropy extended to, among other things, the arts, parks, youth; especially those in foster care; and aging adults. He supported numerous local organizations in any way he could, including volunteering his time. It was through Tom's natural ability to build authentic connections that he became a friend to so many.

Sadly, Tom passed away in December 2020, at the age of 67. He was a cherished member of Contra Costa and Alameda Counties, and he will be remembered for his generosity, integrity, and humor. Please join me, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, and Congress-

man ERIC SWALWELL in honoring Tom for his many contributions to our community.

IN SUPPORT OF LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH AND HOUSTON PRIDE WEEK

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate LGBTQ Pride Month and the remarkable progress that has been made in making our country more diverse and tolerant and embracing of differences in the 21 years since the cruel murder of Matthew Shepherd, a college student from Laramie, Wyoming.

As a country, America has made and continues to make great progress in the area of social equality, as evidenced most dramatically by the seismic shift in public support for marriage equality over the past decade.

Today, supporters of marriage equality dramatically outnumber opponents by 61 percent to 35 percent; a near total reversal from 2004, when opponents outnumbered supporters 58 to 39 percent.

Our country made progress in bringing our LGBTQ brothers and sisters, mother and fathers out of the shadows with the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," which I was proud to support.

Our Nation is now stronger, and our people are safer thanks to the sacrifices made by these brave Americans, who no longer need to choose between service and silence.

There have been other changes for the better.

In April 2015, President Obama issued a landmark Executive Order prohibiting discrimination against LGBTQ persons in the workplace.

This civil rights victory ensures the tax dollars used to pay government contractors support contractors that are committed to equal employment opportunity for all persons regardless of sexual orientation.

This legislation marks a major shift from a time when the U.S. Civil Service Commission prohibited the hiring of LGBTQ persons to a time when President Biden has appointed, and the Senate confirmed overwhelmingly, a Secretary of Transportation who is a veteran, a former mayor, and an openly gay man.

And we are making progress in realizing the goal of making H.R. 5, the "Equality Act," the law of the land so LGBTQ people will finally be guaranteed explicit, permanent protection under the nation's existing civil rights laws against discrimination in vital areas of life, like employment, access to public spaces, housing, credit, education, jury service, and federally-funded programs.

Madam Speaker, it is unacceptable that in 31 states LGBTQ people can get married on Sunday and remain at risk of being fired or evicted on Monday simply because of who they are.

This year marks the 52nd anniversary of the LGBTQ Civil Rights Movement, where activists such as Frank Kameny led the struggle for the voices of the LGBTQ community to be heard.

Frank Kameny's courageous demonstrations inspired others to resist mistreatment, and we witnessed in 1969 what happens when a community says enough is enough.